



# Mother Nature's wrath

Mother Nature could not make up her mind this month between a winter thaw and cold spells, so Ontarians saw both record warmth and lingering cold spells. Minimum daily temperatures of or below -45.0 degrees Celsius were recorded in Lansdowne House and Armstrong, and maximum temperatures above 15 degrees Celsius were seen in southern Ontario, reaching as high as 17.4 in Vineland. New daily record high temperatures were set in southern Ontario between January 11-13, and again on January 29 and 30.

Precipitation also made the headlines, but not – as might be expected – for unusual snowfall amounts. Large rainfall totals were observed this month in southwestern Ontario, Muskoka and the North Bay area. In fact, Wiarton's monthly rainfall total surpassed the record values of 1950. For a number of locations, such as London, Hamilton, and Muskoka, this was the second wettest January on record. Also, in terms of daily amounts, significant rainfall totals occurred on January 12, including new daily rainfall records in southern Ontario. Snowfall amounts for locations in the typical snowbelts off Georgian Bay only received a fraction of what they normally receive in January.

### Severe Weather

This past month had pretty much everything falling from the sky that can... including snow, ice pellets, freezing rain and rain.

A series of storm systems from the American Southwest, in particular the Texas area, had impacts across the province between January 11-13. No part of the province was spared from some form of significant weather during this timeframe, with snow, ice pellets, freezing rain, rain and fog all occurring during this three-day period somewhere in Ontario.

As the first in the series of systems impacted the province on January 11, temperatures were already above freezing across much of southern Ontario, but temperatures continued to remain below the freezing mark in eastern and northeastern Ontario. This prompted periods of freezing rain during the day on January 11 in these areas before temperatures slowly rose above the freezing mark, changing the freezing rain to rain.

In southern and central Ontario, the rain and drizzle diminished by late in the day on January 11, being replaced with patches of dense fog as much-warmer-than-normal air settled over the region. By the morning of January 13, cold air had become established over northwestern and northern Ontario. However, milder temperatures prevailed in southern Ontario, where the last of the series of low-pressure systems crossed the Lower Great Lakes. This system dumped notable rainfall totals in many localities across the south, with amounts generally between 25-35 mm.

Rapid transitions from mild air to much colder air with the passage of sharp cold fronts happened a few times during the month across the province. The rapid change often generated a brief burst of snow and poor visibility as the cold air rushed into an area. One example of an event of this nature happened in eastern Ontario on January 20. The driving conditions in snow and blowing snow became so poor at one point that a 100-km stretch of Highway 417 from Ottawa to the Quebec border was closed.

On January 25, a snow squall band had formed over central Lake Ontario. As winds strengthened from the southeast, this band was pushed onshore to the east of Toronto in the Oshawa-to-Brighton

area. The near-zero visibility was a contributing factor to a multi-vehicle collision that occurred on the 401 in the Oshawa area around 3 p.m. This collision resulted in some injuries, but fortunately no fatalities.

The month ended with yet another complex storm system moving up from the American Southwest. The first impulse from the system brought some freezing rain and drizzle to portions of southern Ontario on January 28. Then a second and stronger impulse moved northeast through Lake Superior on January 29, bringing significant rain to portions of southern Ontario with some thunderstorm activity mixed in. Eastern and northeastern Ontario stayed just below freezing for a good portion of January 29, leading to periods of freezing rain and snow in these areas. By late that day and into the early morning hours of January 30, temperatures in eastern and central Ontario rose above the freezing mark and their precipitation turned to rain.

However during the day on January 30 through central Ontario, in the wake of the passage of the last in the series of storm systems, their winds snapped around to the north. This ushered in colder air and changed the rain back to freezing rain and then to snow. The freezing rain lasted for a number of hours in Sudbury. This resulted in all major highways in and out of Sudbury, including the TransCanada Highway between North Bay and Sudbury, being closed for a number of hours.

The next day, on January 31, another storm system travelled across northeastern Ontario and dumped a further 15 to 25 cm of snow on regions like Chapleau, Timmins, and Kirkland Lake, and further complicated efforts in Sudbury to recover from the freezing rain that occurred the previous day.

# HOUSE LEAGUE

### TYKE

**T&R Paving – 6**  
**Eramosa Physiotherapy – 2**  
 T&R Paving goals: Nathan Morrow (3), Ethan Malcolm, Paul Trichilo, Nicholas Cordingly. Assists: Trichilo, Adam Champagne. Eramosa Goals: Jacob St.Pierre (2). Assists: Peyton Heddington.

### Sunny Motors – 4 Acton Referees – 1

Sunny Motors goals: Kienan Fitzgerald, Jackson Rodic, Brienne Falls, Owen Wilson. Assists: Wilson, Cormac Mcphee. Acton Referees goals: Emma McIntyre. Assists: Connor Brown, Brody Nyitrai.

### ATOM

**Hamburglars – 5**  
**Mayor McCheeses – 3**  
 Hamburglars goals: Jonah McDonald (3), Adam La Selva, Curtis King. Assists: Carter Gallant (2), Brandon Schupp (2), Johny Pryszyk, Abi Cordingly. Mayor McCheeses goals: Charlie McGilivray, Ryan Hodge, Nathan Thomson. Assists: Liam Chalmers (2).

### Grimaces – 0 Big Macs – 3

Big Macs goals: Curtis Hopkins, Jack Feibel, Calum Pratt. Shutout goalie: Gavin DeRoos.

### PEEWEE

**Nellis Construction – 2**  
**Acton Firefighters – 2**

Nellis Construction goals: Jake Case (2). Assists: Devonte Teves-Benjamin, Adam Coppola, Andrew Grant. Acton Firefighters goals: Michael Gillis, Brady Borges. Assists: Borges (2), Johnny Donakov, Makayla Dee.

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### Mortgage Edge – 7 H.E.L.P. Safety – 3

Mortgage Edge goals: Ethan Constable (4), Chase Aditjas (2), David Corbett. Assists: Jaidyn Longpre (2), Constable, Brodie Gordon, Ethan Kalra. H.E.L.P. Safety goals: Matthew Dunne, Jack Mowat, Ben Rushlow. Assists: Keiran Lawson, Jack Timmerman, Carter MacPherson, Ryan Griffiths.

# Acton House League Hockey Association hosts 43rd Peewee tournament

Last weekend marked the 43rd annual Peewee Hockey Tournament at the Acton Arena. Again this year, 18 teams played for championships in three divisions. Although the tournament is primarily comprised of local teams, this year a team from the Sudbury area, and another from Clarington helped make the tournament a success.

The Championships were played Sunday

evening after 27 hard fought games, of which three went to "sudden victory" overtime and then to a shoot out to determine the winner.

Aurora Thrashers downed Orangeville Penguins 6-1 in the J.T. Division Championship game. Two Halton teams, the Milton Penguins and the Oakville Thunder, faced off in the B.W. Division Championship game and Oakville blanked

Milton 4-0. In the Select Division championship, Burlington Bulldogs faced Center Wellington Fusion.

Tournament Chairs Russell and Cathy Lee would like to thank all the players for their great play and sportsmanship. Also, to the many volunteers who spend countless hours at the rink over the course of the weekend to make the tournament another success.

# Smooth & Trendzy rule

Acton Ladies Hockey began round robin play-offs last Friday night when Smooth & Trendzy topped Tanners Pub & Grill 4-2. Smooth & Trendzy scored three first period goals and never looked back. Scoring for Trendzy in the first period were Annette Kroezen, Nicholl Spence and Tina McLeod. Gina Wright got a helper. Tanners responded with two goals by Carrie Gallant, assisted on both by Daina McKellar. Nicholl Spence sealed the deal with an empty net unassisted goal with 42 seconds left in the game.

The second game between Acton Optical and Active Choice was a 0-0 sister kisser. Janette Wilson and Kristy Hayward sparkled in goal to earn the shutouts.

Choice visits Smooth & Trendzy at 10 p.m., and

Acton Optical visits Tanners Pub & Grill at 11 p.m.



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Tomorrow Active